

Remarks

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 1 is amended. The amendment to claim 1 is supported by the original disclosure, for example page 5, lines 5-22 and Figures 1A and 1B. Claims 1-10 are pending.

Claims 1-5 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,834,755 to Haghiri-Tehrani. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Haghiri-Tehrani does not disclose an electronic circuit device as recited in claim 1, including an electronic component and internal terminals encapsulated with an encapsulation resin, and the encapsulation resin in contact with an inner side of the ring-shaped portion.

Haghiri-Tehrani discloses an electronic module with a metal layer forming contact surfaces divided into a central area 5A and an outer area 5B. A casting compound 15 is provided so as to encapsulate an electronic component 9. The rejection suggests that the feature denoted by numeral 23 in Figure 5 of Haghiri-Tehrani is an internal terminal.

However, reference numeral 23 in Haghiri-Tehrani denotes an indentation (see, e.g., column 4, line 8). The indentation 23 is illustrated similarly as one of the windows 7 disclosed by Haghiri-Tehrani (see, e.g., Figures 1 and 7). Thus, the indentation 23 is not a metal layer or any form of terminal. Rather, the indentation 23 is a through hole. Therefore, the electronic component 9 cannot be connected with the indentation 23.

As shown in Figure 2 of Haghiri-Tehrani, the electronic component 9 is connected with the central area 5A. Assuming the central area 5A to be an internal terminal, which Applicants do not concede, the central area is not encapsulated with the casting compound 15 as shown in Figure 2 because an adhesive layer 17 is provided so as to be in contact with the casting compound 15. Thus, Haghiri-Tehrani fails to disclose that the internal terminals are encapsulated by an encapsulation resin.

In addition, the casting compound 15 is not in contact with an inner side of the outer area 5B that the Examiner characterizes as the ring-shaped portion. Thus, Haghiri-Tehrani fails to disclose an encapsulation resin that is in contact with an inner side of the ring-shaped portion.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Haghiri-Tehrani.

Claims 2-5 and 8-10 depend from claim 1 and are patentable therewith and need not be separately distinguished. Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejections to the dependent claims.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 6 and 7 recite allowable subject matter.

Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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